



Michael A. Stackpole (born November 27, 1957) is a science-fiction and fantasy author. He has written I, Jedi, and The Dark Tide Duology and half of the X-Wing series. He also wrote short stories Missed Chance and Elusion Illusion. Stackpole co-wrote the short story Side Trip and comic Star Wars: Mara Jade - By the Emperor's Hand with another fan favorite author, Timothy Zahn.

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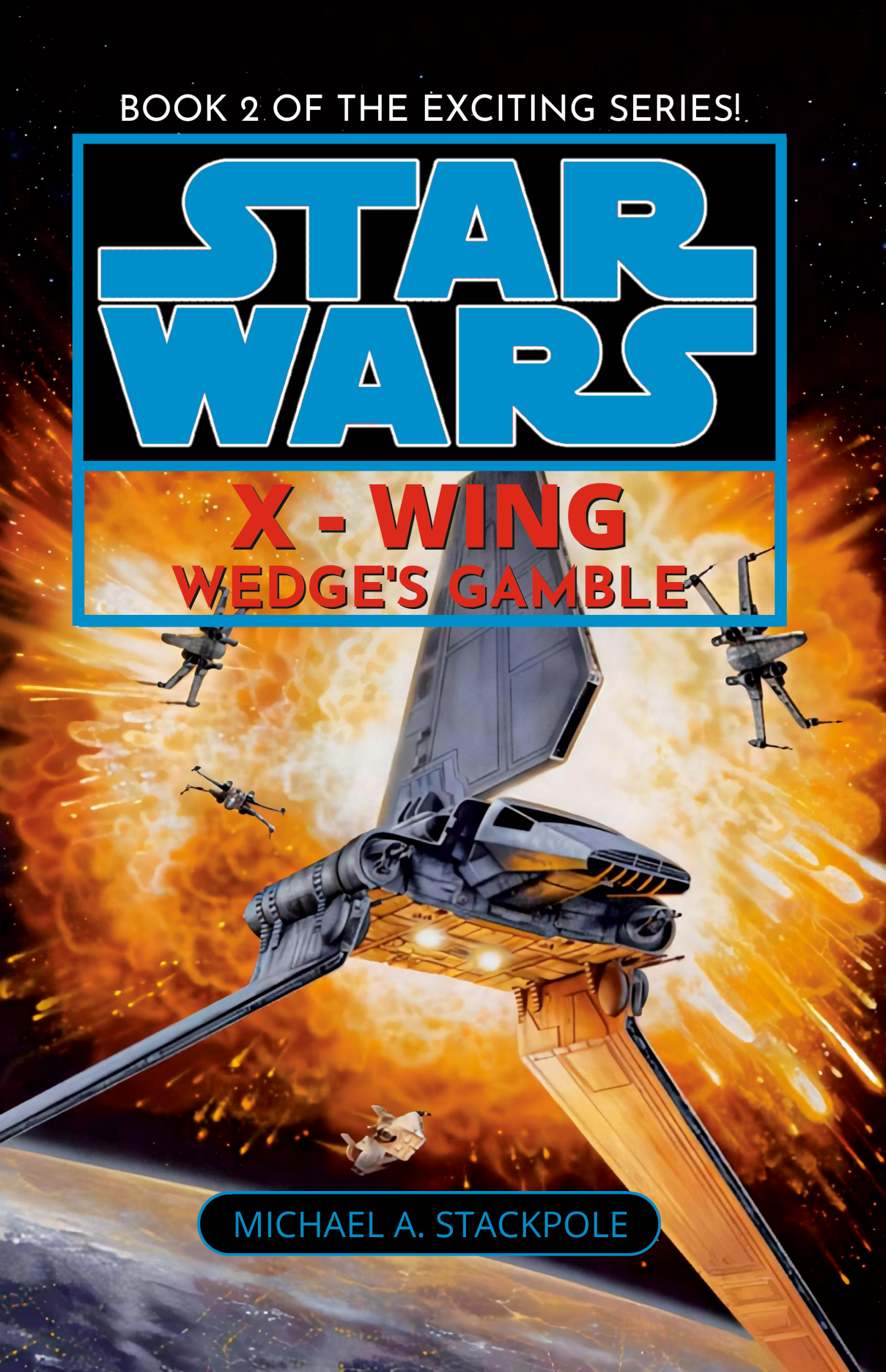


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They are the X-wing fighters. And as the battle against the Empire rages across the vastness of space, the pilots risk both their lives and their machines for the cause of the Rebel Alliance. Now they must embark on a dangerous espionage mission, braving betrayal and death on the Imperial homeworld to smash the power of a ruthless foe!

It is the evil heart of a battered and reeling Empire: Coruscant, the giant city-world from whose massive towers the Imperial High Command directs the war. The Rebels will invade this mighty citadel in a daring move to bring the Empire to its knees. But first Wedge Antilles and his X-wing pilots must infiltrate Coruscant to gain vital intelligence information. Capture means death, or worse - enslavement by the vicious leader known as 'Iceheart', Ysanne Isard, now Emperor in all but name. And one of Rogue Squadron's own is already her slave, a traitor hidden behind a mask of innocence, working to betray both colleagues and the Rebellion itself.